

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: April 20, 2005 Division: BOCC1

Bulk Item: Yes X No Department: BOCC1

Staff Contact Person: Jana Johnson-Willi

AGENDA ITEM WORDING: Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, Monroe County, Florida, in recognition of the late Merili McCoy.

ITEM BACKGROUND:

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:

CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

TOTAL COST: **BUDGETED:** Yes No

COST TO COUNTY: **SOURCE OF FUNDS:**

REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No **AMOUNT PER MONTH** **Year**

APPROVED BY: County Atty OMB/Purchasing Risk Management

DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL: *Dixie M. Spehar*
Dixie M. Spehar, Mayor

DOCUMENTATION: Included Not Required

DISPOSITION: **AGENDA ITEM #**

Resolution No. ____-2005

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY IN
RECOGNITION OF THE LATE MERILI HILTON McCOY**

WHEREAS, Merili McCoy, Commissioner of the City of Key West for the past ten years, wife of County Commissioner Charles "Sonny" McCoy, matriarch of a large family, and wonderful friend to many, passed away on April 9, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Merili's love for Key West, its residents, architectural and botanical beauty, history, and the Keys environment began when, at age nine, her family moved to Key West for her father, Captain Carl Hilton, to assume the top-ranking Coast Guard position in Key West; and

WHEREAS, Merili had a generosity of spirit for every person who crossed her path, and great passion for her family, her adopted home town, and all who have dwelled therein; and

WHEREAS, the community mourns her loss and has exhibited its heartfelt sympathy for her extensive family, including "Sonny" and Merili's six children Dulce Arnold, Felicia McCoy, Peter McCoy, Tim McCoy, Sean McCoy, and Mimi Grantham, along with their spouses, children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Merili's strength of character kept her in the forefront of local issues and projects until the very end, notwithstanding the toll taken by serious illness; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

Section 1: Hereby adopts this Resolution as an expression to the family of their deepest sympathy in the passing of the late Merili McCoy.

Section 2: Hereby recognizes and honors Merili McCoy for her unfailing devotion to her family, community, and friends as exemplified by the following:

Merili mentored and nurtured six children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and countless friends, especially imparting her views of life, responsibility, loyalty, and her immense love for gardening and the environment;

Merili, as the niece of hotel mogul Conrad Hilton and the daughter of a Coast Guard officer, traveled extensively from her early childhood throughout her life, and lived in pre-Castro Cuba with her husband and family, but always considered Key West home;

Merili founded the City of Key West Tree Commission and was appointed to serve that commission in 1971 when it was established, as well as served on the Florida Keys Historic Preservation Task Force;

Merili was a member of the Zonta Club of Key West for twenty years, serving as its ninth president when the Key West arm of the international service organization sponsored a new Zonta club in Marathon, and mentored other Zontians even after her City Commission activities greatly reduced the time she had to dedicate to Zonta;

Merili, as a member of the Sunshine Rotary Club since 1988, served energetically in City-wide events sponsored by Sunshine Rotary and actively participated in the Club's work at the District level and its international pursuits;

Merili served on the Monroe County Tourist Development Council from July 1992 until August, 1994, as a lodging representative while managing a motel on Hilton Haven;

Merili served on the City Commission of Key West from 1995 until her death, attending meetings of all appointed boards of the City, studying all issues faced by the City Commission, and was indefatigable in her promotion and support of many projects and causes which would benefit the people of Key West, most notably: beautification of the City Marina at Garrison Bight, landscaping and preserving the trees and natural environment of Key West, encouraging pedestrian and bicycle paths, and seeking solutions for the homeless;

Merili always maintained her integrity and never flinched from taking the lone path in carrying out her responsibilities on each of the public bodies which she served once she determined that hers was the right path;

Merili, despite all of her commitments to family and her public service, also found time weekly to serve the community for many years as a Helpline volunteer;

Merili was selfless in her devotion to family and friends, holding huge holiday dinners and always finding time to spend with someone in need of a hand to hold or interested in receiving a tidbit of Merili's vast knowledge of Key West's history;

Merili was truly the Renaissance woman, and memories of her will always be cherished by those fortunate enough to have known her.

Section 3: Hereby directs the Clerk to forward to the family of Merili McCoy a copy of this Resolution expressing the Board's sorrow.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, at a meeting of said Board held on the 20th day of April, A.D., 2005.

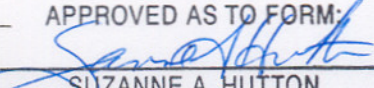
Mayor Dixie M. Spehar	_____
Mayor Pro Tem Charles "Sonny" McCoy	_____
Commissioner George Neugent	_____
Commissioner David P. Rice	_____
Commissioner Murray E. Nelson	_____

(SEAL)
Attest: DANNY L. KOLHAGE, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By _____

By _____

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

SUZANNE A. HUTTON
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
Date 4/14/05